



2014 Big Spring Managed Deer Hunt - Archery



December 12 - 14, 2014

Big Spring Managed Deer Hunt – Archery



Purpose

The Big Spring managed deer hunt will improve the overall health of the deer herd through quality deer management in the Big Spring area. This recreational opportunity is an effort to provide proper access, facilities, and other needed resources so these individuals can enjoy a safe and successful recreational experience.

Apply On-line for Hunt (No. 2) at:

<http://mdc4.mdc.mo.gov/applications/managedhunts/showhunts.aspx>

Description of Proposed Area

Located at the end of State Road 103, four miles south of Van Buren, Missouri in Carter County. The Big Spring managed hunt will take place within the boundaries of the 5,500 acre Big Spring unit, which was one of Missouri's first state parks from 1924 until 1969. In 1969 the state of Missouri donated Big Spring State Park to the National Park Service for inclusion into Ozark National Scenic Riverways (OZAR). The area contains various developed areas to include a campground, picnic areas, a dining lodge, trails and rental cabins. The habitat for this area is primarily composed of oak-hickory forest with a few grass field openings. The majority of the area is managed with prescription fire in order to help benefit fire adapted native species and habitats.

Method

1. Archery (longbow, recurve bow, or compound bow) will be the only devices permitted during the hunt.
2. Hunting dogs or other pets are not permitted, nor will they be allowed in the area during the hunt.

Bag Limit

1. Two deer, **antlerless only** are permitted to be harvested by each hunter.

Monitoring

1. Hunters will be required to check harvested deer in at the check station in order for staff to gather biological data and to insure compliance of the regulations of the hunt.
2. All harvested deer must be telechecked by 10:00 pm on the day taken.

Required Registration and Safety Briefing

1. **Thursday, December 11th** - All permitted hunters **must** register for the hunt and attend a pre-hunt orientation at the park Headquarters located in Van Buren. Registration will begin at **7:00 pm**. Hunters will receive instructions and safety rules and regulations.